

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

EUR-12 /092 W

----- 091644

R 072149Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6418

INFO AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, CO

SUBJECT: REACTION TO TRADE ACT-GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

REF STATE 282967

1) WE DISCUSSED REFTTEL WITH FONOFF SUB SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ROBERTO SOTO. HE WAS KEENLY INTERESTED IN AND GRATEFUL FOR THE INFORMATION.

2) SOTO NOTED THE MANY PROTESTS ORIGINATING IN OTHER LA COUNTRIES REGARDING RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN TITLE V OF TRADE ACT. HE THEN SAID THAT AS FAR AS COLOMBIA WAS CONCERNED THERE WAS QUOTE NO PROBLEM UNQUOTE AND THAT GOC DID NOT INTEND TO ADD TO U.S. DIFFICULTIES WITH FURTHER COMPLAINTS. HE AMENDED THIS HOWEVER, TO EXTENT OF INDICATING THAT GOC WAS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN DEGREE OF SOLIDARITY WITH OTHER LATIN COUNTRIES. WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO TITLE V EXCLUSION RELATING TO OPEC MEMBERS, SOTO DECLARED THAT IF US WANTED TO DO BATTLE WITH OPEC AND COULD SOMEHOW LOWER PETROLEUM

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PRICES THIS WAS ALL TO COLOMBIAS BENEFIT. COLOMBIA WAS NOT

IN A POSITION TO FIGHT SUCH A BATTLE BUT IT HAD A STRONG
INTEREST IN THE OUTCOME IN VIEW OF ITS PROBABLE FUTURE POSITION
AS A PETROLEUM IMPORTER.

3) COMMENT: WHILE ACCORDING TO SOTO THERE MAY BE QUOTE NO PROBLEM
UNQUOTE WE SHOULD NOT BE TOO SURPRISED TO FIND OURSELVES THE
TARGET OF SPORADIC PUBLIC POTSHOTS FROM INDIVIDUALS BOTH IN AND
OUT OF GOVERNMENT.
WHITE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (TARIFFS), DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, TRADE COMPLAINTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA00128
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750007-0820
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750174/aaaacmvo.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 282967
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTION TO TRADE ACT-GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES
TAGS: ETRD, CO, US, OPEC, (SOTO, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006